ect of clandestine inflow of gold

778. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated annual loss to Government in terms of foreign exchange and other exportable commodities due to the clandestine inflow of gold into the country;

(b) whether Government have reviewed the working of the Gold Control Act so as to know how far it has achieved its objective in checking contraband consignments of gold entering into the country besides controlling and regulating the trade and industry engaged in the task of using gold; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof stating the deficiencies, if any, identified and the manner in which Government propose to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Since smuggling is a clandestine activity no estimate can be made of the quantum of gold smuggled in to the country. Consequently it is not possible to know the loss of foreign exchange on this account.

(b) and (c) Government's gold policy in its totality is under examination by a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rangarajan, Deputy Governer of Reserve Bank of India, constituted on May 13th, 1986.

Manipur as a transit link for smuggling activities

2779. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Manipur is increasingly becoming an imperative transit link for dope smugglers operating from the Golden Triangle countries of Laos, Thailand and Burma playing havoc with the youth of Manipur; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the measures being taken by Government to check the clandestine drug trafficking at the Manipur border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Reports received indicate that Manipur continues to be vulnerable to drug trafficking from across Indo-Burma border. However, the number of cases and the quantities of drugs seized, as reported to the Narcotics Control Bureau, which are given below would indicate that there is no large-scale smuggling of drugs in Manipur:

Sl. No.	Name of drug	No. of cases	Quantity (kilograms)
		1986	
1	Heroin	124	2.342
2	Ganja	8	81.000
		1987	
3	Heroin	14	1.818
4	Methaqualone	1	15.359

With the enforcement of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 providing for deterrent punishment for drug offence cases, the drive against drug traffickers/smugglers has been intensified, both by the Centre as well as the States. Government of India have also notified the border areas of Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland with Burma, as specified area, under section 11H of the Customs Act, 1962, having regard to the vulnerability to smuggling. Besides, the Chief Secretaries of the North-Eastern States and the Police authorities of those States have also been impressed upon the need for tightening the various control measures in regard to drug trafficking.

Narcotic Cells have also been created in the Customs and Central Excise Collectorates all over the country and in the State police organisations. Government have also launched multi-pronged aggressive countermeasures against drug trafficking, which, *inter alia*, include strengthening of the preventive and intelligence machinery, specially around borders, adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral cooperation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). The situation is also kept under constant review for appropriate follow-up action.

Adverse effect of industries on environment in Rajasthan

2780. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the area deforested in Rajasthan during the last three years, yearwise, due to the setting up of industries; and

(b) the extent to which the setting up of such industries has adversely affected the environment thereby causing drought in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) Following area has been deforested in Rajasthan for setting up of industries during last three years.

Years	Area deforested
1985	39.4 ha.
1986	3.48 ha.
1987	Nil

There has been no survey to assess the extent to which environment has been adversely affected by setting up of industries on forest land referred to in part (a) of the question.

हशीश का जब्त किया जाना

2781. **श्री सन्तोष बागड़ोदिया :** क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान देश के विभिन्न महानगरों में हशीश जब्त किये जाने के कितने मामले प्रकाश में आये हैं ; और

(ख) प्रत्येक मामले में जब्त की गयी हशीश की मात्रा कितनी थी ; उसका मूल्य कितना था ; प्रत्येक मामले में पकड़े गये व्यक्तियों की संख्या कितनी थी, गिरफ्तार किये गये व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गयी और जब्त की गयी हशीश का निपटान कैसे किया गया ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राजस्व विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजीत पांजा) : (क) और (ख) चार महानगरों में विगत तीन